

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 2, 6-9, 13-15, and 18-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,212,643 to Yoshida ("Yoshida") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,945,927 to Nakayama et al. ("Nakayama"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,938,719 to Arakawa et al. ("Arakawa"); and rejected claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida in view of Nakayama, and further in view of Arakawa and U.S. Patent No. 6,012,014 to Koyanagi et al. ("Koyanagi").

Applicants amend claims 2 and 9. Claims 2, 6-9, and 13-23 remain pending and under examination.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 2, 6-9, and 13-23 under 35 U.S. C. § 103(a). A *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established at least because the differences between the prior art and Applicants' claims are such that it would not have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the prior art to arrive at Applicants' claimed invention.

Independent claim 2 recites an electronic map apparatus comprising a microcomputer that "processes data of a plurality of arcs representing different geographical distances from the center, wherein the arcs are each superposed on the map displayed in the perspective view as ellipses in response to receipt of a predetermined input requesting display of the arcs" (emphasis added). None of Yoshida, Nakayama, Arakawa, and Koyanagi, taken individually or in combination, teaches or suggests the claimed microcomputer.

Yoshida discloses that a user can “scroll[] the maps to be displayed” and that “[t]he scale indication pattern 13b is a concentric circle pattern whose center point is superimposed on the current position of the vehicle.” Yoshida, 3:67-4:4; 4:19-28. However, Yoshida fails to teach or suggest that “the arcs are each superposed on the map displayed in the perspective view as ellipses in response to receipt of a predetermined input requesting display of the arcs,” as recited by claim 2 (emphasis added).

Nakayama fails to cure Yoshida’s deficiencies. Nakayama discloses that “so-called grid lines . . . are superimposed on the road map at each predetermined interval of space.” Nakayama, 13:6-10. Nakayama does not teach or suggest that “the arcs are each superposed on the map displayed in the perspective view as ellipses in response to receipt of a predetermined input requesting display of the arcs,” as recited by claim 2 (emphasis added).

By displaying arcs “in response to receipt of a predetermined input requesting display of the arcs,” the claimed invention allows a user to selectively turn on or off the arcs. Accordingly, the display screen can be simplified to allow for easier navigation when a user does not desire superposing the arcs, and yet the user has the option of enabling “the arcs” to obtain additional guidance as needed. Neither Yoshida nor Nakayama, taken individually or in combination, teaches or suggests such a combination.

Arakawa and Koyanagi fail to cure the deficiencies of Yoshida and Nakayama, nor does the Examiner rely on Arakawa or Koyanagi for allegedly disclosing display of

the claimed "arcs," let alone "in response to receipt of a predetermined input requesting display of the arcs," as recited by claim 2.

Accordingly, none of Yoshida, Nakayama, Arakawa, and Koyanagi, taken individually or in combination, teaches or suggests the combination recited by claim 2. Independent claim 9, although of different scope than claim 2, patentably distinguishes from the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 2. Claims 6-8 and 13-23 depend from independent claims 2 or 9 and therefore also patentably distinguish from the cited references for at least the same reasons as claims 2 and 9.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the timely allowance of the pending claims.

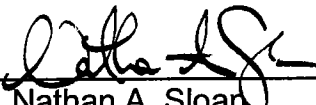
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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